

## Reading Response

### The Gender Wage Gap by Occupation

Why do women earn less than men? This question really isn't answered in the "The Gender Wage Gap by Occupation." This article stood more for the facts and statistic behind the gaps in income between genders and ethnicities. Therefore, from this text no one can accurately answer that question. But this article does make us think exactly why men do get paid more in most jobs/professions, why some jobs are men dominated, why some jobs are women dominated, and why other jobs are taken by different ethnicities.

Secretaries, Waitresses, Teachers, Nurses, Bookkeeping Clerks, Accounting Clerks, Auditing Clerks, Teacher assistants, and Office clerks are some of the various jobs that are mostly held by women. Now why is that? Women have been looked down upon in our society for ages, and this trend is just continuing though the job market. If I asked someone on the street to name a job a woman would probably have they would most-likely say: waitress, teacher, secretary, or nurse. These jobs have somewhat of "women qualities" to them; taking care of the customer, teaching the young, serving the man in charge, or tending to someone's health. These are our, as a society, stereotypical jobs for women to have. All of these jobs have one commonality, Service to others. If you really think about it, who would you rather have of service to you (such as handling food as a waitress)? A man or woman? Most of America would definitely say a woman because that's how we picture that job feminine.

Rather than serving others men are thought to serve themselves and always strive for the positions of power or jobs where they can utilize their physical strength such as: Presidents of the United States, CEOs, Managers, Construction workers, Groundskeepers, Auto Mechanics and Service Technicians, or Police Officers. What are the commonalities between these jobs? These jobs either have some sort of authority or power over others or use physical strength and knowledge.

So why exactly is there a wage gap? There are many ideas and theories that dig deeper into this, but nothing is really certain. From a third party speculation, men are thought to generally have more experience in positions of power, are more knowledgeable, and society has always placed them as the breadwinners for the family. But these things have no factual evidence and are just common observations. In fact, in today's society, these do not have any truthfulness anymore. You could say that women are evolving in a sort. Unlike years passed women are finally getting accepted into position of power (in the last decade or so), women can definitely be more knowledgeable (depending on work ethic and natural ability, these traits have neither gender nor a specific sex), and lots of women are even the providers for families as well (or self-sufficient).

This article also addresses the issues that go along with race and ethnicity. The given information of this subject basically tells us that White men and women generally earn more than other ethnicities, Asian men and women are very close to earning the same as white men and women,

then come black men and women, and finally Hispanic men and women. This variance in wages is most likely the result of education and training opportunities. But there was no evidence suggested to support that claim. I sense that in the near future these gaps will be closing because of all of the equal rights activists, which will be good for this country and possibly the world. This world is a very colorful place, so why can't our workplace be the same way?